

## **MSSU Athletics Report**

### **1. Sport Program Reports**

- a. **Football** – The Missouri Southern football team will begin spring practice on March 29 with a final scrimmage commencing on April 22. The spring schedule will consist of 13 practice dates and two scrimmage dates of the 15 total days. Practices will start at 3:15 p.m. during the week with the Saturday practices/scrimmages starting at 2 p.m.
- b. **Men's Basketball** – The Missouri Southern men's basketball team finished the season 18-12 and had four players selected All-MIAA, including MIAA Freshman of the Year Elyjah Clark. Clark was an All-MIAA pick, as well as CJ Carr, JJ Cratit and Lawrence Brown.
- c. **Women's Basketball** - The Missouri Southern women's basketball finished the season 12-17 and had two players selected All-MIAA with Deb Holcomb and Desirea Buerge earning honors.
- d. **Track and Field** – The Missouri Southern Men's and women's track and field teams competed well at the 2017 NCAA Division II Indoor Championships. Vincent Kiprop was the National Champion in the 5k and runner up in the 3k. Bryan Burns was a first-team All-American in the shot put, while Morgan Hold was a second-team All-American in the pole vault. Emily Presley was the national runner up in the pole vault and Allie Heckemeyer was a second-team All-American in the pentathlon. The men's team is in fourth-place in the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Program of the Year award standings, while the women's team won the award for the highest team GPA at the National Championships with a 3.59 cumulative team GPA.
- e. **Baseball** – The Missouri Southern baseball team is 13-10 and 5-4 in the MIAA. Max Hogan leads the MIAA in eight different offensive categories, while ranking in the top 20 nationally of 11 different categories. The Lions play host to Missouri Western this weekend in a three-game series at Warren Turner Field.
- f. **Softball** – The Missouri Southern softball team is 9-16 overall and plays in St. Joseph this weekend at the Missouri Western Tournament. Abi Corbett is 7<sup>th</sup> nationally in hits and leads the MIAA in that category. Taurean Guzman is 19<sup>th</sup> nationally in saves and second in the MIAA in that category.
- g. **Golf** – The Missouri Southern golf team started up the spring season this week in a snow-shortened event at Washburn. The Lions were in sixth place as a team with Chase Rogers finishing 15<sup>th</sup> individually.

### **2. MIAA News: Nothing to Report at this Time**

### **3. NCAA News:**

- a. **NCAA Reporting:**
  - i. The Compliance Office is currently working on the Academic Success Rate Report for the NCAA. This report is completed yearly to establish the student-athlete graduation rate and academic success of student-athletes at the institution.
  - ii. **Division II Legislation:** Athletic committees are working diligently to establish new policy and procedures to meet the new financial aid package approved at the NCAA Convention in January of this year.
  - iii. **Institutional Self-Study Guide:** the NCAA Institutional Self-Study Guide is due to be completed and submitted by Spring 2018. The committees are reconvening at this time to begin the process.

**b. Ticketing/Event Management**

**i. MSSU Ticket Info**

**1. Year Recap**

- a. Since 2013, football walk-up revenue has increased by 60%.
- b. Overall revenue for football and basketball, including season tickets and other packages, has increased 87% since 2013-14.
- c. Baseball season tickets have more than doubled since 2015-16.

**2. Basketball Recap**

- a. Full Season Equivalent ticket sales were up in 2016-17 compared to 15-16
  - i. 710.5 season tickets 2016-17
  - ii. 690 season tickets 2015-16
- b. First-time initiatives
  - i. JACC/YPN Night
  - ii. Multiple Most Improved Student recognitions
  - iii. Crossroads magazine promo code

**3. Baseball game at Becker**

- a. Will be able to shoot off fireworks after the game
- b. Alumni department will be hosting a tailgate prior to the game
- c. All premium seating has been pre-sold
  - i. 6 suites
  - ii. Party Deck
  - iii. 2 Corporate Retreat Sections featuring 50 seats each
- d. GA tickets are available for purchase online
  - i. Adult: \$7
  - ii. Youth: \$5
  - iii. Children 12 & under: Free
- e. Season tickets, F/S ID's and student ID's will be recognized for admission at the game

**4. MIAA Baseball Tournament**

- a. Hosted at Warren Turner Field – May 11<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup>
- b. Tickets available for purchase online
  - i. Students/Youth: \$6.00
  - ii. Single Day Pass: \$12.00
  - iii. Weekend Pass: \$32.00
- c. MSSU guaranteed the MIAA \$10,000 for hosting privileges

**ii. Group Sales**

- 1. Between Group Sales for basketball and baseball, revenue increased from 2015-16 to 2016-17.**
  - a. \$5,357.94 in 2015-16
  - b. \$7,744 in 2016-17 so far
- 2. Overall, between all sports, Group Sales revenue has more than doubled:**
  - a. \$10,651.94 in 2015-16
  - b. \$23,220.00 in 2016-17

iii. Transition

1. Nathan Bramwell, Director of Ticket Operations & Event Management, has resigned from MSSU to take a position at another University

c. NCAA Compliance:

- i. The NCAA Division II Central Region Compliance Seminar will be held in Kansas City in April this year. We will have someone from the Financial Aid, Registrar, Admissions, and Compliance attending the rules seminar this year.

d. Departmental Searches:

- i. Football Offensive Coordinator - was filled by David Johnson. Coach David Johnson joins us from the staff of in conference rival, University of Central Oklahoma, where he served as the offensive coordinator.
- e. SAAC: The Student Athlete Advisory Committee is looking to volunteer at an event with area foster families and kids on April 29<sup>th</sup>. The student athletes will help with a balloon release for each of the kids still needing a foster home.
- f. Mobile Application: A new athletics mobile application was launched in partnership with Arvest Bank. The free mobile app features live stats, venue maps, player information, concessions information, and promotions. The Lions GO mobile app powered by Arvest Bank currently has 984 downloads.
- g. Southernfest: The Athletics department fundraiser is coming up on April 7<sup>th</sup>. The event will feature the Rod Smith Golf Tournament at 9am held at Twin Hills Country Club and The Lion Pride Dinner Auction to be held in the North Endzone Facility at 6pm.

4. **Lionbackers & Annual Campaign(s):**

- a. Membership Drive: The 2016-2017 Lionbacker Campaign is coming to completion with 253 members. The drive ends up from last year by 6 members.
- b. Men's and Women's Basketball Teams are currently having a raffle for a "ground Package" for their Puerto Rico trip in November.
- c. Lionbacker Appreciation day chili feed at the basketball game was held on February 4 at noon. It was held in Leggett and Platt behind the green curtain. We had an excellent Turnout! Thank you to all of our Lionbacker supporters for attending and being such fantastic fans!

5. **Athletic Facility Updates:**

- a. L&P: Bleacher Repair scheduled for June
- b. Warren Turner Field: Windscreen and yellow capping installed at the stadium

6. **Upcoming Events:**

- a. Baseball v Truman St (DH): Feb. 18-19 @ 1 & 3 pm (Warren Turner Field)
- b. Crusaders Games: March 18, April 1, 8 @ 7pm (Hughes)
- c. FCA Meetings: March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17 (NEZ Alumni Room)
- d. Show Me Gold Morning PT: March 20-24, 27-31, April 3-7 (Hughes & Hal Bodon Field)
- e. MSSU Girls Soccer Academy: March 20, 22, 27, 29, April 3, 5, 10, 12 (Hal Bodon Field)\
- f. Baseball Camp: March 22-23 (Turner Field)
- g. Softball v UCM: March 22 @ 2 & 4pm (Lipira Softball Complex)
- h. Softball v Pitt: March 24 @ 2 & 4pm (Lipira Softball Complex)
- i. Baseball v Washburn: March 24-26 (Turner Field)
- j. Baseball v UCO: March 29 (Turner Field)

- k. MO Creative Adventures: April 1 (L&P/Young)
- l. VBall Camp: April 4 (Young Gym)
- m. Southern Social: April 4 (NEZ)\_
- n. MSSU Career Fair: April 4-5 (L&P)
- o. Softball v SBU: April 4 @ 3 & 5pm (Lipira Softball Complex)
- p. Southern Fest: April 7 @ 6:30pm (NEZ)
- q. Softball v MWSU: April 7 @ 4 & 6pm (Lipira Softball Complex)
- r. Softball v NWMSU: April 8 @ 12 & 2pm (Lipira Softball Complex)
- s. Football Alumni: April 8 (NEZ)
- t. VBall Camp: April 11 (Young Gym)
- u. Area Superintendents: April 11 (NEZ)
- v. Baseball v Pitt: April 12 @ 5pm (Turner Field)
- w. Phi Eta Sigma Inductions: April 13 (NEZ)
- x. Baseball v UCM: April 13-15 (Turner Field)
- y. MO State Trampoline and Tumbling State Championships: April 15 (L&P)
- z. WBB Spring Fling: April 15 (Young Gym)
- aa. Sophomore Day: April 19 (All Facilities)
- bb. Softball v UCO: April 21 @ 4 & 6pm (Lipira Softball Complex)
- cc. Softball v NSU: April 22 @ 12 & 2pm (Lipira Softball Complex)
- dd. Lionbacker Steering Committee: April 11 @ 6:30pm (Vowels and Stover Conference Room)

